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PATENT___

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No.: 09,778,286

Filed: February 7, 2001

For: DEVICE SUPPORT
ACTIVATION SYSTEM

Attorney Docket No.: MED 2 1192

Cleveland, OH 44114-2518

May 31, 2002

Examiner: Unknown

Art Unit: 1744

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97, 1.98 and MPEP § 609, applicant(s) submit(s) the following Disclosure Statement concerning art of which the applicant(s) is (are) aware. A copy of PTO-1449 is enclosed herewith.

This Information Disclosure Statement is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to herein or submitted herewith is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(g) and (h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b) exists.

Under § 1.98(a)(3), no concise explanation of relevance is required for information that is in the English language. Accordingly, the enclosed patents require no further explanation (or no translation is available).

6511 6-19-02 Under § 1.97(b)(3), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. Although it is believed no fee is necessary, any deficiency in fees should be charged to Deposit Account No. 06-0308.

It is respectfully requested that the attached document(s) be considered and officially cited in examination of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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216/861-5582

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this Information Disclosure Statement and PTO-1449 Form is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on June 3, 2002.

By: Cheryl Kobylinski

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO Atty. Docket No.: Application No.: MED 2 1192 US 09/778,286 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT(S) James C. Hlebovy, et al. First Named Inventor: Examiner: Group: Filing Date: February 7, 2001 Unknown 1744 U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS Pages, Columns, Lines, Publication Date Examiner Cite Document No. Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Where Initials* No. Document Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear 4,281,674 08/04/1981 Tanaka et al. AΑ Kinoshita AB 4,548,197 10/22/1985 Kralovic et al. 03/15/1988 AC4,731,222 Kamaga AD 5,090,433 02/25/1992 02/25/1992 Schneider et al. ΑE 5,091,343 07/06/1993 Sanford et al. AF 5,225,160 5,279,799 01/18/1994 Moser AG Fernandez et al. 5,405,587 04/11/1995 AΗ AΙ 5,552,115 09/03/1996 Malchesky 06/02/1998 Malchesky ΑJ 5,759,490 AΚ 6,013,227 01/11/2000 Lin et al. AT. 6,047,431 04/11/2000 Canonica 6,608,815 05/30/2000 Oberleitner, et al. MA FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS Cite Foreign Patent Document Publication Name of Patentee Pages, Columns, Т Examiner Lines, Where Relevant Initials* No. Date Applicant of Cited Passages or Relevant Country Code & Country Document Figures Appear Number AN OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS Examiner Cite Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when Т Initials* appropriate), title of the item No. (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published ΑO

> Date Considered

Examiner

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